GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1503
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
INCIDENTS OF SNAKE AND MONKEY BITES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of snake and monkey biting are much higher in the country than other parts of the world;

(b) if so, the estimated number of persons died due to snake and monkey bites;

(c) whether the Government plans to formulate a National Policy for treatment of victims of snake and monkey bites;and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) As per the data compiled by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI),the number of cases and deaths due to snake bites in the country during the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 till date are given below:

Year	Cases	Deaths
2006	61,507	1,124
2007	76,948	1,359
2008 till date	45,001	464

Though data regarding incidents of monkey bites is not separately maintained, however monkey is the second most common biting animal after dogs responsible for affliction of rabies. The number of confirmed cases/deaths due to rabies is, 361 in the year 2006, 244 in the year 2007 and 132 in the year 2008 til! date.

(c) & (d) The Union Government has finalized a National Snake Bite Treatment Protocol for proper treatment of case of snake bites and has circulated the Protocol to all State Governments.

The Government of India extends technical support and guidelines for prevention and management of animal bites cases,including those of monkey bites.In addition, a pilot project for Prevention and Control of Human Rabies has also been launched under `New Initiatives` in the XI Five Year Plan.